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171. Proposed by JOHN S. ROYER, Editor of The School Visitor, Columbus, Ohio.

A drawer made of inch boards is 8 inches wide, 6 inches deep, and slides horizontally. How far must it be drawn out to put into it a book 4 inches thick, 6 inches wide, and 9 inches long?

ALGEBRA.

183. Proposed by W. J. GREENSTREET, M. A., Editor of The Mathematical Gazette, Stroud, England.

Find the condition that $x : y : z$ may be real, given that $\sum ax^2 = \sum aax = 0$, and $\sum aa^2 = 1$.

184. Proposed by J. A. CALDERHEAD, B.Sc., Professor of Mathematics, Curry University, Pittsburg, Pa.

If m rows, viz., the h_1 th, h_2 th, ..., h_m th, be transferred so as to become the 1st, 2d, ..., m th, without altering the relative positions of the remaining rows, and that n columns, viz., the k_1 th, k_2 th, ..., k_n th, be similarly transformed, the determinant thus obtained is the same as the original or differs from it only in sign according as $h_1 + h_2 + \dots + h_m - \frac{1}{2}m(m+1) + k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_n - \frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$ is odd or even. [Muir.]

GEOMETRY.

205. Proposed by L. C. WALKER, A.M., Professor of Mathematics, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Col.

Having given any two systems of conjugate semi-diameters of an ellipsoid, the parallelopiped which has any three for continuous edges is equal to that which has the other three for continuous edges.

206. Proposed by W. J. GREENSTREET, M. A., Editor of The Mathematical Gazette, Stroud, England.

$ABCD$ is circumscribed by a circle center O , and it circumscribes a circle radius r . The perpendiculars from O on the sides are x, y, z, u . Show that $\frac{1}{2}AC \cdot BD = r \sum x$.

CALCULUS.

170. Proposed by W. J. GREENSTREET, M. A., Editor of The Mathematical Gazette, Stroud, England.

Find the center-locus of conics having 4-point contact with a given conic at a given point. Show that the conic of minimum eccentricity is given by $e^4 ab^2 \varphi + 4e^2 - 4 = 0$, where e is its eccentricity, and φ is the angle which the linear center-locus above makes with the normal to the curve at the point.

171. Proposed by J. E. SANDERS, Hackney, Ohio.

A thread passes spirally around a rough cylinder 10 feet high and 6 inches in diameter. How far will a pigeon fly in unwinding the thread if the distance between the coils is 4 inches, and the thread unwound is at all times horizontal?